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DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL
REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1938.

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G. H. BAILEY, PRINTER.

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New Mills Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE Medical Officer of Health, — For the Year 1938. —

Medical Officer of Health (Temporary) :

R. H. TITCOMBE, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Vict.)

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector :

JOHN A. THOMPSON, A.R. San. I.

DISLEY,
July 17th, 1939.

To the Chairman and Members of the
New Mills Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my report for the year 1938.

Section A—Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres) 5,242.

Registrar General's estimate of residential population (mid-year, 1938) 8,205.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) 2,541.

Rateable Value, £43,216.

Sum represented by a penny rate, £164.

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are textile and metal working.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

		Total	M	F
Live Births	{ Legitimate } Illegitimate ...	107	{ 50 2 }	{ 54 1 }

Birth rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population, 13·04.

		Total	M	F
Still Births	{ Legitimate } Illegitimate ...	4	2	2
		0	0	0

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 36·04.

		Total	M	F
Deaths	... ... ... ...	120	60	60

Death rate per 1,000 of estimated population, 14·77.

Deaths from Puerperal Pyrexia, 0.

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 0

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	56·07
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	57·69
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births				0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)...	...	...	...	18
,, ,, Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	0
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	0
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	0

Section B—General Provisions of Health Services for the Area.

As in previous reports.

Ambulance Facilities.

Infectious Diseases.

One Ambulance provided by the Isolation Hospital at Chinley.

Non-Infectious Cases and Maternity Cases.

Two Ambulance vehicles and one driver maintained by Voluntary Public Subscriptions.

Section C—Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water.

The main was extended from the Golf House to Sharson Green, thereby improving the supply of water to the Sharson Green and Chapel Street area, and making the public supply available for houses which are at present on unsatisfactory private supplies.

The general supply has been satisfactory in quantity and the quality has been checked by bacteriological and chemical analyses.

13 samples from private supplies and 20 from public supplies have been examined bacteriologically and 11 chemical analyses of the public supplies have been carried out during the year.

In April samples were taken at the filters and at Spinner Bottom (Morlands supply) and were examined bacteriologically at the Public Health Laboratories in Manchester.

These were found to be satisfactory.

Samples were again taken on November 22nd, 1938, at High Lea Road (Ball Beard supply), Albion Road (Low Leighton supply), Buxton Road (Ball Beard supply), and the Crescent, Birch Vale (Morlands supply). The report was that in the case of the High Lea supply the coliform figure was excessive, in the Albion Road supply the coliform figure was high, at Buxton Road the supply of water was polluted, and at the Crescent, Birch Vale, the result was satisfactory.

Miss Shaw, the Bacteriologist, and Dr. D. G. Evans, Chemist of the Public Health Laboratories, Manchester, were immediately consulted with regard to the conclusions to be drawn from these results, and they suggested that chlorination should not be considered until further samples had been examined.

Further samples were then taken at the same points for both bacteriological and chemical analyses and also from the inlets and outlets of the Ball Beard and Low Leighton filters.

A sample was also taken from the outlet of the Morlands Reservoir for chemical analysis only.

The results of these analyses showed a very considerable improvement at High Lea Road and Buxton Road, and the samples from the filters were satisfactory.

A further consultation was held between the Chemist and Bacteriologist, the Clerk, the Medical Officer of Health, the Sanitary Inspector and the Water Manager. The Chemist stated that the chemical analyses did not indicate sewage pollution.

It was then decided to take samples from other points, namely: Church Road (Ball Beard supply), and Kinder View (Low Leighton supply), and repeat the samples from the filters. The results indicated an improvement in the water in the mains, but the results of the samples from the Ball Beard filters were unsatisfactory.

At a further consultation with Mr. H. Heap and Dr D. G. Evans, of the Public Health Laboratories, Manchester, the possible sources of pollution were considered.

- (1) During the period of heavy rains when the samples were taken, the water passing to the Reservoirs would be upland surface water and not from Gow Hole.
- (2) The samples from Buxton Road were taken from a point on the mains where water would partially stagnate (a dead end).
- (3) Pollution from ball hydrants.
- (4) Inadequacy of the filters on the Ball Beard supply.
- (5) Work being carried out on the High Lea mains involving disturbance of the pipes.

Considering all these results, Mr. H. Heap and Dr. Evans reported that their conclusions were:—

- (1) That the water was pure and wholesome.
- (2) That the water needed a little correction by the addition of chalk and
- (3) That the method of filtration and washing had yet to be decided upon.

They suggested that further samples should be taken in the new year and that a consultation should be held at New Mills with the Water Engineer and the makers of the plant, to decide on the measures which should be suggested to the Council to make the water entirely satisfactory.

At a Special Meeting of the Health Committee held December 28th, 1938, the Council approved of this course being taken.

Results of Bacteriological Examination of Water during the Year.

Probable number of coli-aerogenes bacteria per 100 c.c. of water.

	April 26th, 1938	Nov. 22nd	Dec. 5th	Dec. 19th
High Lea Road (Ball Beard Supply)		90	1	
Albion Road (Low Leighton Supply) ... ...	.	35	35	
Buxton Road (Ball Beard Supply)		350	35	
Spinner Bottom (Morlands Supply)	0	0		
Kinder View (Low Leighton Supply)				7
Church Road (Ball Beard Supply)				8
	Inlet	Outlet	Inlet	Outlet
Ball Beard Filters ...	0		350	1
Low Leighton Filters	0		180	0
Morlands Reservoir (Outlet)				Chemical Analysis

Drainage and Sewage.

The scheme for the alteration and additions to the Sewage Works was completed and presented to the Committee and approved by the Council.

Application was made to the Ministry of Health for sanction to borrow to carry out the work and a Public Inquiry was held by G. Stanley Well, Esq., M.C.A.M., Inst.C.E., at the Town Hall on the 8th November, 1938, and later, sanction was received from the Ministry to proceed with the scheme, subject to the approval of the tender.

Rivers and Streams.

Pollution is controlled by the appropriate authorities.

Closet Accommodation.

No conversions to the water-carriage system.

Number of closets of each type remaining at the end of the year 1938 :

Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	1,314
Waste Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	525
Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	...	37
Privy-middens	...	...	...	...	...	31

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The Sanitary Inspector's report is appended.

- (a) 141 inspections were made of dairies, houses, slaughter-houses, sanitary arrangements, etc.
- (b) 29 informal and (nil) statutory notices were served.
- (c) 152 nuisances were abated with or without notices.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Number of Council houses infested	...	...	...	...	Nil
Other houses infested	...	...	...	...	11
(These houses were treated with "Cimex" and demolished).					

Schools.

The sanitary condition of the Schools was satisfactory.

With reference to Infectious Diseases, affected Schools were visited, "Contacts" swabbed and disinfection of premises carried out as required.

Section D—Housing.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	130
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose...						164
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	...	...	...		83
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose...						83

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	0
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	0
2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices:	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	25
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year ...	0

Section E—Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply.

66 Milk samples were taken for bacteriological examination for Tuberclle Bacilli. 2 samples contained Tuberclle Bacilli. These animals were dealt with by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Meat and other Foods.

The Meat Inspector reports as follows :

The following carcases were killed and examined in the Slaughter-houses of New Mills :

	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ...	895		11	3454	177
Number inspected ...	895		11	3454	177
Tuberculosis—					
Whole carcases condemned	1				
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1				
Percentage of the number inspected infected with Tuberculosis	0·22				

The whole of one carcase of beef was condemned and the lungs and liver of another carcase were also condemned.

The slaughter-houses, bakehouses, etc., were duly inspected by the Sanitary Inspector.

Section F - Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

The number of notified cases of Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever were considerably less than last year and towards the end of the year those of Diphtheria had diminished to an almost negligible figure. Only three cases of Diphtheria and seven cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the last quarter of the year.

A small number of Scarlet Fever cases were treated at home. Under suitable conditions, this was considered to be adequate, as removal of cases to Hospital has not been as effective in checking the spread of the disease as it was at one time hoped.

The Council has continued to supply Diphtheria prophylactic material for use in their district, and also decided at their Meeting of November 14th, 1938, to defray the cost of immunisation of all children of pre-school age, the work to be undertaken by local practitioners using A.P.T., to be given in two injections. 63 children of pre-school and school age were immunised during the year. Other measures taken to diminish the incidence of Diphtheria were :

- (a) The swabbing of contacts at the Schools with the co-operation of the Assistant County Medical Officer of Health, and at home by the local medical practitioners.
- (b) Carriers found were isolated at home or hospital.

Intimations of infectious diseases have been received from the Schools and action has been taken in these cases where necessary.

Influenza was less prevalent this year and measles was not prevalent. Measles Serum has not been generally used.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1938.

Disease	No. of cases notified	Removed to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever ...	43	36	4
Diphtheria ...	44	40	
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	2	2	
Erysipelas ...	8		
Pneumonia ...	3		1

Analysis of Notified Cases during 1938, under Age Groups.

Disease	under 1 year	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	Total
Scarlet Fever ...	1		3	7	16	5	5	5		1		43
Diphtheria ...		1		2	22	13	4		1	1		44
Puerperal Pyrexia ...								2				2
Pneumonia ...					1			1			1	3
Erysipelas ...								2	1	5		8

Tuberculosis. New Cases and Mortality during 1938.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		non-Respiratory		Respiratory		non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0								
1								
5					1	1		
15								
25		1	1					
35			1					
45								
55								
65 and over								
Totals ...	1	2		2		2		

There were no non-notified Tuberculosis deaths.

The death rate from Phthisis Pulmonalis was 0·24.

A comparison of the vital statistics with those of England and Wales is as follows:

		Birth Rate		General Death Rate		Infantile Death Rate
England and Wales	...	15·1	...	11·7	...	53
New Mills	...	13·04	...	14·77	...	56·07

Your obedient servant,

R. H. TITCOMBE,
Medical Officer of Health.

17th July, 1939.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1938

FOR THE

URBAN DISTRICT OF NEW MILLS, IN THE COUNTY OF DERBY

on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in
connection with

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

1—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces, Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	9	0	0
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	1	0	0
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises)	0	0	0
Total	10	0	0

2—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars	Number of Defects			Number of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Nuisances under Public Health Acts—				
Nuisances				
Total				

Outworkers in Unwholesome Premises, Section 108

Nil.

R. H. TITCOMBE,

Medical Officer of Health.

17th July, 1939.

Annual Report of Sanitary Inspector

New Mills Urban Sanitary District, 1938

Name of Inspector - JOHN ANTHONY THOMPSON

Area of District ...	... ... ...	... ...	5,204 acres
Estimated number of Houses	...	...	2,555
New Houses erected, 1938—(a) by Local Authority	...	4	
(b) by Private Enterprise	...	13	

	Number of Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector	Number of Notices served		Number of Nuisances abated with or without Notice
		Informal	Legal	
Closets and Ashpits—				
Defective Privies, Pail Closets and Ashpits (not for conversion)	...	1		1
Defective Water Closets	...	24	24	24
Provision of Additional W.C.'s	...	5		5
Provision of Portable Ashbins	...		1	63
Drainage—				
Defective Waste Pipe, Traps, Inlets } and Drains	55	2	38
Drains Obstructed			
Other Defects—				
Roofs, Eaves, Spouts & Down Spouts	...	6	1	6
Water Supply	35		
Foul Condition of Houses	2		2
Offensive Accumulations	2		2
Nuisances not specified above	...	11	1	11
Totals ...	141	29		152

	Number on Register	Inspections made	Notices served	Nuisances abated with or without Notices
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	85	5		2
Bakehouses ...	13	6	1	1
Slaughterhouses ...	7	1		
Offensive Trades ...	2	5		
Common Lodging Houses ...	1	2		
Totals ...	108	19	1	3





